



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 01887587

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
George Clarke)
Serial No.: 09/901,932)
Filed: July 9, 2001)
For: ANTIMICROBIAL)
ULTRA-MICROFIBER CLOTH)

Group Art Unit: 1774

Examiner: Merrick Dixon

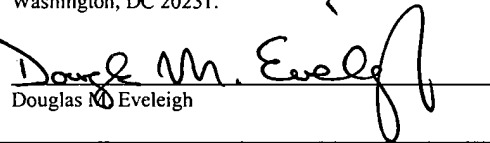
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Washington, DC 20231.


Douglas M. Eveleigh

Assistant Commissioner Of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

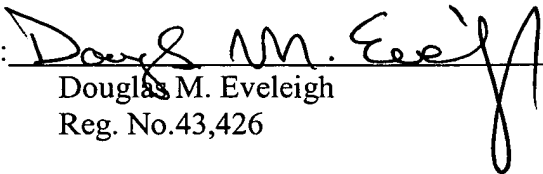
In the Office Action mailed January 27, 2003, the Examiner requires restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the claims of Group I (claims 1, 5, 6, 26-29, 32-38, 45 and 46-48) and Group II (claims 19, 22, 31 and 39-44). Applicant believes the restriction requirement is not warranted and therefore respectfully traverses that requirement, as discussed further below. However, in order to further prosecution, Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute Group I, claims 1, 5, 6, 26-29, 32-38, 45 and 46-48.

Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of Group I and Group II together can be made without serious burden. Section 803 of the MPEP states that, "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner *must* examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct

inventions" (emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims in Groups I and II should be examined together in this application at least in view of Section 803.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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Date: March 27, 2003